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A.U.: 1714

Examiner: TOOMER, CEPHIA D

September 28, 2004

# Amendment to the Claims

## In the Claims

1. (Previously presented) A fuel in microemulsion form, comprising a liquid fuel, an emulsifier and an emulsive agent, said emulsive agent having an HLB value higher than 9, wherein the liquid fuel comprises a bio-vegetable fluid selected from the group consisting of biodiesel and methyl esters of rapeseed oil and of sunflower oil, wherein said emulsive agent is C<sub>12</sub> - C<sub>13</sub> alcohol ethoxylate.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) 3. The fuel according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein said emulsifier is sorbitan monooleate.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) The fuel according to claim ~~4~~, 1, wherein said C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>13</sub> alcohol is ethoxylated on the average with 8 moles of ethylene oxide.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) 8. The fuel according to claim 1, further comprising products based on polyisobutenyl succinic anhydride.

9. (Original) The fuel according to claim 1, further comprising biocide products.

10. (Original) 10. The fuel according to claim 1, comprising in parts per volume, for 1000 parts of liquid fuel, 13 to 17 parts of emulsifier, 5 to 20 parts of emulsive agent, and 100 to 145 parts of water.

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11. (Previously presented) A method for preparing a fuel in microemulsion form, comprising mixing a liquid fuel, an emulsifier and an emulsive agent, said emulsive agent having an HLB value of more than 9, in a system provided with multiple reverse-flow coaxial turbines.

12. (Previously presented) A fuel in microemulsion form, obtained by mixing of a liquid fuel, an emulsifier and an emulsive agent, said emulsive agent having an HLB value of more than 9, wherein the liquid fuel comprises a bio-vegetable fluid selected from the group consisting of biodiesel and methyl esters of rapeseed oil and of sunflower oil, wherein said emulsive agent is C<sub>12</sub> - C<sub>13</sub> alcohol ethoxylate, in a system provided with multiple reverse-flow coaxial turbines.

13. (Previously presented) The fuel according to claim 1, which does not dissociate in its components even when subjected to centrifugation up to values of more than 35,000 m/s<sup>2</sup>.

14. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a fuel in microemulsion form comprising the steps of premixing a liquid fuel, an emulsifier and an emulsive agent having a HLB value higher than 9 to obtain a premixed fluid, followed by the passage of the premixed fluid through a succession of steps of flow at first velocities alternated with steps of flow at second velocities, the first velocities being higher than the second velocities, the steps of flow at higher velocities being provided at velocity values which gradually increase from a first step of flow at higher velocity to a last step of flow at higher velocity.

15. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 14, wherein the liquid fuel comprises a bio-vegetable fluid selected from the group consisting of biodiesel, rapeseed oil and sunflower oil.

16. (Withdrawn) A fuel in stable microemulsion form obtained by premixing a liquid fuel, an emulsifier and an emulsive agent having a HLB value higher than 9 to obtain a premixed fluid, followed by the passage of the premixed fluid through a succession of steps of flow at first velocities alternated with steps of flow at second velocities, the first velocities being higher than the second velocities, the steps of flow at higher velocities being provided at velocity values which gradually increase from a first step of flow at higher velocity to a last step of flow at higher velocity.

17. (Withdrawn) The fuel according to claim 16, wherein the liquid fuel comprises a bio-vegetable fluid selected from the group consisting of biodiesel, rapeseed oil and sunflower oil.